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DYNAMIC SCIENCE CORPORATION

a Subsidiary of Marshall Industries



1445 Huntington Drive, South Pasadena, California, telephone: MURRAY 2-3581

May 3, 1961

Professor Joshua Lederberg
Department of Genetics
Stanford University Medical Center
Palo Alto, California

Dear Professor Lederberg:

Because the Jet Propulsion Laboratory and Hughes Aircraft Company have been assigned specific responsibilities for designing, constructing, and launching a lunar vehicle called Surveyor, Dynamic Science Corporation has proposed to JPL and to Hughes, programs of study and work to provide the requisite assurance that these vehicles are sterile when they arrive on the moon. Our proposals have been favorably received by both JPL and Hughes.

Prominent among consultants on sterilization on which JPL and N.A.S.A. rely are Dr. C. R. Phillips and I suspect also the Space Science Board of the United States National Academy of Sciences. At this time conversations with these consultants by Dynamic Science Corporation are not appropriate. We understand that JPL has asked NASA to "set the standards of the space vehicle sterilization program" and that these standards have not yet been finally established. Certain portions of the set of standards have been sufficiently well established, however, to allow JPL to proceed with development and verification of specific techniques. It is in the development and verification of techniques that Dynamic Science Corporation can be of considerable service to both Hughes and JPL. Both Hughes and Dynamic Science Corporation will look to JPL for final decisions on the standards of the program.

We at Dynamic Science Corporation followed with interest the thoughts which you have published during the past several years. We have found them to be particularly well developed. Because the ultimate objective in sterilizing lunar vehicles is to facilitate the measurements which you and other biologists may wish

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to make, it seems to us appropriate that we attempt to understand as best we can the specifics of the problems which concern you and other biologists. In this way we hope to be of greater usefulness to JPL, NASA, Hughes, and the community of biological scholars.

On Monday, May 8 I shall be in Berkeley at Cutter Laboratories during the afternoon and at Los Altos during the early evening. Should you feel that it might be useful for us to spend half an hour to an hour discussing this subject on Tuesday, morning please leave information about a suitable time and place with your secretary. I plan to call your office Monday morning.

Very truly yours,

John B. Opfell, Ph.D.
Senior Engineer
Dynamic Science Corporation

JBO:sg